SOFTBALL

EXPECTATIONS FOR TEAM ATTENDANCE

All athletes are expected to attend all practices, scrimmages and games, meets or matches. Attendance is a commitment that the entire family must agree on prior to the start of each sports season.

Limited participation in athletics is not allowed. (Example: special arrangements for individuals to practice less than the scheduled number of days per week for work, Driver’s Education, non-school activities). Excused absences include only those for (a) illness, (b) school concerts and class field trips, (c) doctor’s appointments, (d) religious holidays, (e) an educational experience may be considered an excused absence. The experience must be related to an activity in which the student has previously been engaged and be of minimum duration. School related trips (example: trips taken during vacations to Europe, Canada, etc.) and family vacations will not ordinarily be considered excused absences. Parents and students are asked to make these decisions prior to the beginning of the sports season. Realizing there may be extenuating circumstances, a student may request excused absences by a direct prior request, before the official season begins (in writing) from the parent/guardian to the Director of Physical Education & Sports.

For one unexcused absence from a practice/game or scheduled meeting, the athlete will be suspended for one (1) athletic contest. For two unexcused absences, suspension will be from two (2) athletic contests.

SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS:

Any assigned school suspension (whether it is In-School or Out-of-School) will result in; (1) No participation or attendance in practice or a contest on the day the suspension is served and; (2) a suspension of one athletic contest. If the athlete is suspended from school on a game day, that will be considered the suspended athletic contest. If the athlete is suspended on a “practice” day, they will not attend practice on the day of the suspension and miss the next scheduled contest.

NHIAA RULES:

Medical Exam: All incoming Freshmen and new-to-CHS students must have a current physical received by CHS prior to the first day of tryouts. Physicals MUST NOT BE OLDER THAN ONE YEAR FROM THE START OF THE SEASON. Only one physical is required throughout the high school years. NO PHYSICAL-NO TRYOUT!

Sportsmanship:

A. Any player who is disqualified before, during or after a game at the Freshman, Junior Varsity or Varsity level, for exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct, shall not participate in the next scheduled interscholastic athletic event, including NHIAA Tournament contests. Any player who is disqualified from a game and participates in the next scheduled interscholastic athletic event(s), including NHIAA Tournament contests, will cause that school’s game(s)/event(s) to be forfeited in the event of a win. In the event of loss(es), the matter will be referred to the Sportsmanship Committee for
action. **Note: During the period of disqualification, a player shall not be in attendance at the game(s)/event(s) for which the disqualification is imposed.**

B. If any player or coach receives a second game disqualification during the season, that individual will be required to forfeit any participation in that interscholastic sport, at any level, for the balance of the season.

C. If the game disqualification is administered in the final contest of the season (including tournament play), the penalty shall be carried over in that sport and invoked at the first regular season game the following academic year. If a disqualification is administered to a graduating senior in his final game for that school, it is the expectation that the school will take immediate and appropriate disciplinary action.

D. Any player, who leaves the bench area during an interscholastic athletic event where an altercation is taking place in the playing area, shall receive a one-game disqualification for the next scheduled game.**

**Any player involved in a fight shall receive a two (2) game suspension for the first offense. A second offense will lead to a disqualification in that sport for the balance of the sports season.**

1. **OTHER EXPECTATIONS**

A. Every athlete is expected to travel to and from an athletic event with the team. Exceptions to this would be a direct prior request, in writing, from the parent/guardian to the Director of Physical Education & Sports.

B. All injuries, however slight, should be reported to the coach of that sport immediately. A $90.00 per student interscholastic athletic participation fee is required. Anyone unable to pay this fee should request a waiver while completing the on-line registration. This request will be reviewed by the Business Administrator.

C. The athlete is responsible for all equipment and uniforms assigned to him/her. They will be expected to pay in full for any lost or damaged items. All equipment (including uniforms) must be returned directly at the end of each sport’s season. Failure to accomplish this within one week of the final contest may result in no letter award.

D. All athletes must complete the on-line registration and supporting documents prior to the start of the season.

2. **QUITTING TO CHANGE SPORTS**

Once final cuts have been made and the team established for the season, no team member may quit and participate in another sport during the same season until approval has been given by both head coaches and the Director of Physical Education & Sports.

3. **AWARDS:**

For teams winning state championships, the coach is encouraged to conduct a fundraiser to provide an adequate award for such an accomplishment. This is the only such award that the Athletic Department recommends. It is felt that the letter award and certificate presented at the Sports Award Banquets fulfills this need. We urge parents to cooperate in seeing that this concept is carried out. Organized Booster Clubs, which conduct fund
raising activities for athletics, shall be allowed to allocate their contributions as determined by their Board of Directors and the coach of the sport, subject to approval of the Principal and Athletic Director. All apparel (jackets, sweatshirts, T-shirts, etc.) should reflect the appropriate school colors (cardinal & white)-CHS and (blue & white) RMS, and if necessary for a third trim color, black.

**INFORMED CONSENT:** Softball is a game of explosive movements. The possibility of injury exists as a result of an explosive movement such as a throw, sprint, slide or swing of the bat. Collisions may occur with other players or between ball and player or bat and player. Severe injury, or even death, may result from severe blows. Proper attention to detail, one’s surroundings, team rules and conditioning will lessen the possibility of injury.

**INDIVIDUAL RULES:** Softball practice begins in March. The season extends until the last regular season or tournament game. If an athlete is in school, she is expected to be at practice. If the athlete is not feeling well, she should call or leave a message with the coach. Tryouts will consist of an instructional evaluation period of 3 days including competitive situations. An appraisal to determine team membership will be made on performance during the tryout period and an athlete’s performance on previous CHS Varsity, JV or Freshman squads.

**LETTER AWARD CRITERIA:**
1. Athlete must perform in 10 Varsity games or pitch 15 innings.
2. The athlete must finish the season in good standing.
3. Any senior participating in softball for three years without earning a letter is eligible to receive one her senior year.
4. A manager, who contributes to the success of the Varsity Team, is eligible for a letter.
5. Athletes meeting the letter award criteria must finish the season eligible and in good standing to receive their Varsity letter.

**NHIAA-Non School Competition By-Law - A.** A member of a school team is a student athlete who is regularly present for, and actively participates in, all team practices and competitions. Bonafide members of a school team are prevented from missing a high school practice or competition to compete with an “out of school team”. Whenever a conflict arises between the high school team practice/competition and an “out of school practice/competition” on the same day, the high school team practice/competition must be honored by the student athlete. Priority must be given at all times to the high school team, its practices, and its contests unless a waiver has been granted by the athletic director and principal on a case by case basis. Penalties: Any student athlete who violates this rule, unless a waiver has been granted as stated above, for the first time, shall be declared ineligible for the next 4 consecutive interscholastic events or 3 weeks of a season in which the student athlete is a participant, whichever is greater. This penalty is effective from the day of his or her last participation in a high school sport. Any student who violates this rule, a second time, shall be declared ineligible for participation in any high school sport for the balance of the school year.

**APPEAL PROCESS:**
A student and/or his/her parents/legal guardians may appeal to the Principal only a limitation on extracurricular program participation resulting from a First Violation of Fourteen (14) calendar days under Section 1 or any consequence imposed under Section II.

A student and his/her parents/legal guardians may appeal a suspension resulting from a subsequent violation under Section I to the Principal, the Superintendent and from the School Board in this order.

(updated: 2.3.20)